

MUMETA

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All kinds of Photographs
Work done in latest styles
also Passport Photos.
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Amateurs a Speciality.
No. 2, Queen's Road Central
L. 25.

The China Mail.

ESTABLISHED 1845

THE OVERLAND CHINA MAIL.
(PUBLISHED EVERY MAIL DAY.)
Contains (on Week Days) News of Hongkong and the Far East.
Prices (including Postage) to any part of the world \$12 per annum.

No. 17,035.

號九十月二十年七十壹百九千壹英

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1917.

已丁亥歲年大國民華中

PRICE, \$3.00 Per Month

THORNE'S OLD VAT No. 4. SCOTCH WHISKY.

SOLE AGENTS.
A. S. WATSON & Co. Ltd
WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS.
HONGKONG.
TEL. 618.

NOTICE.

ANY EUROPEAN Non ASIATIC or INDIAN desiring to leave the Colony should apply in person at the Central Police Station between the hours of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. daily.
Applicants will be required to produce Passports or identification papers. All persons, with certain exceptions, who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to Register themselves under the REGISTRATION OF PERSONS ORDINANCE 1916. Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the G.P.O. and at all Police Stations.
The Penalty for non compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.

NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE INSURANCE CO.
WHICH ARE THE SHARERS OF THE OCEAN MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY, LTD., and THE RAILWAY PASSENGERS ASSURANCE CO.

TOTAL FUNDS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1914.
\$23,970,367.
Authorized Capital \$5,000,000
Subscribed Capital \$4,500,000
Paid-up Capital \$2,487,500
Fire Funds \$3,837,047
Life & Annuity Funds \$17,667,580
Sinking Fund Account \$28,230
\$23,970,367
Revenue Fire Branch \$2,881,468
" Life and Annuity 2,141,583
Branches 337,239
Revenue Marine Department 478,940
Other Receipts 25,339,228

The Accumulative Funds of the various Branches are separately invested, and, by Act of Parliament, are set aside to meet the claims under the respective Departments of the Company's Business.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.
Agents.

PRAT TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED

WINE TABLE.

WEEK DAY
7.00 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
8.00 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
11.00 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
1.45 p.m. to 2.15 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
2.15 p.m. to 2.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
2.45 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
3.00 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
NIGHT CARS
8.30 p.m. and 9 p.m. 9.30 p.m. to 11.00 p.m. every half hour.
11.00 p.m. to 11.45 p.m. every quarter of an hour.
SUNDAYS
7.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
11.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
12.00 noon to 1.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
1.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
3.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
4.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
4.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
5.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
5.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
NIGHT CARS as on Week Days.

SPECIAL CARS by arrangement at the Company's Office, AUSTRIA BUILDING, Des Voeux Road Central.
Spaces and seats tickets available for all cars, already full, running at the time stated in the Company's time tables, but no special cars can be obtained on application at the Company's Office. The "Special" tickets will be issued, small general seats, but have made in Bank Notes or by Cheques or Cash, after consulting Bank Notes.

JOHN D. HUMPHREY, MGR.

BUSINESS NOTICES. W. S. BAILEY & CO., LTD. ENGINEERS and SHIPBUILDERS. KOWLOON BAY.

Steam and Motor Vessels.
Steel Building Work of every Description.
Castings, Forgings, Repairs and Supplies.

DRAGON MOTOR CAR CO.

SOLE DISTRIBUTORS FOR THE FAMOUS

HARRIS AND OVERLAND MOTOR CARS.
TELEPHONE 482.
COME AND INSPECT
BEST CARS IN THE COLONY FOR HIRE.

THE HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING Co., Ltd.

Established 1883
MANUFACTURERS OF
PURE Manila ROPE
STRAND 1" to 15" CIRCUMFERENCE.
CABLE Laid 5" to 15" CIRCUMFERENCE.
4 STRAND 3" to 10" CIRCUMFERENCE.
Oil Drilling Cables of any size up to 3,000 feet in length.
Priced, samples and full particulars will be forwarded on application to
Shewan, Tomes & Co. General Managers.
Hongkong, April 11, 1913.

WINES AND SPIRITS ASSORTED CASES FOR XMAS.

Case No. 1. - \$22.
1 Bot. St. Estephe Claret
1 " Light Dry Sherry
1 " Port Full Bodied
1 " Gin
Case No. 2. - \$23.
1 Bot. St. Marceau Champagne
1 " Burgundy Beaune
1 Bot. St. Estephe Claret
1 Bot. Light Dry Sherry, Sandeman's
1 " Port Superior Light Invalid
Case No. 3. - \$32.
1 Bot. St. Marceau Champagne
1 " Old Brown Sherry, E.E. Quality
1 Bot. Superior Old Port "D" Quality
1 Bot. Very Fine Old Brown Brandy "E" Quality
1 " Very Old Liqueur Scotch Whisky "E" Quality
Case No. 4. - \$32.
1 Bot. Superior Old Cognac
1 " Very Old Liqueur Scotch Whisky "E" Quality
1 " Dewar's Scotch Whisky
1 " Gin
1 " Orange Curacao
Case No. 5. - \$32.
1 Bot. Superior Old Liqueur Cognac
1 " Very Old Liqueur Scotch Whisky "E" Quality
1 " Dewar's Scotch Whisky
1 " Gin
1 " Orange Curacao
Case No. 6. - \$32.
1 Bot. St. Marceau Champagne
1 " Old Brown Sherry, E.E. Quality
1 Bot. Superior Old Port "D" Quality
1 Bot. Very Fine Old Brown Brandy "E" Quality
1 " Very Old Liqueur Scotch Whisky "E" Quality
SPECIAL CASES PUT UP TO ORDER.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD., WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS TEL. 618.

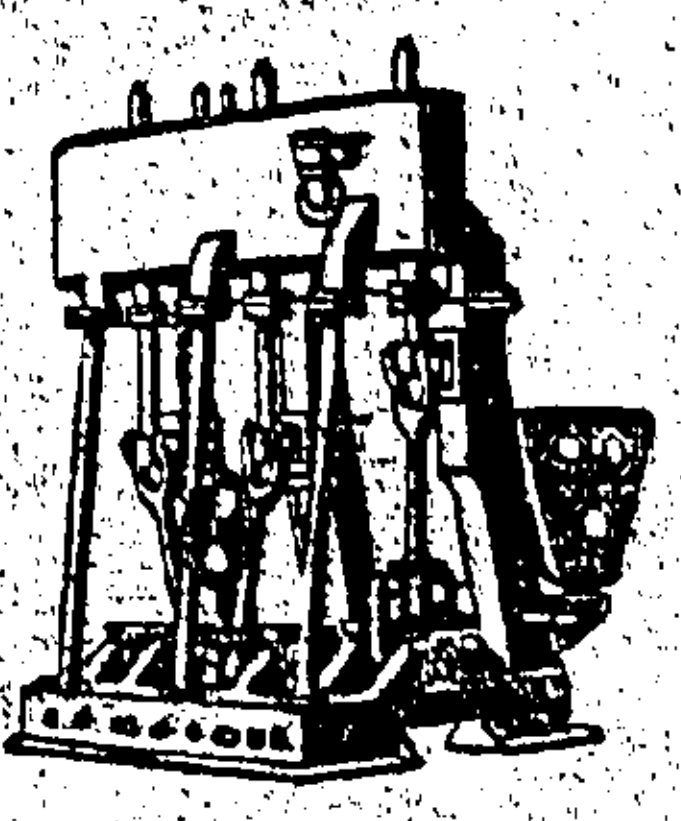
THE KWONG HIP LUNG CO., LTD. (NOW RECONSTRUCTED).

ENGINEERS and SHIPBUILDERS, BOILER-MAKERS, BRASS and IRON FOUNDERS. All work done in this establishment is guaranteed. We have over thirty years' experience. We own two Slipways and can accommodate any craft of 300 feet long.
Town Office, 48, CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL, Hongkong. Telephone No. 426.
Shipyards: Sham-Sui-Po, Kowloon, Hongkong. Telephone No. 9.
Estimates furnished on application.
WONG PING WA, Manager
Hongkong, April 1, 1912.

KING EDWARD HOTEL

Central Location.
11, MANHATTAN TERRACE, Near Entrance.
Electric Lifts, Fans and Lighting.
European Baths and Sanitary Plumbing.
Hot and Cold Water Systems throughout.
Best of Food and Service.
Telephone 575.
L. J. WITKILL, Manager.

BUSINESS NOTICES


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BUILDERS OF SHIPS & ENGINES
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION
— THE TAIKOO DOCKYARD & ENGINEERING COMPANY —
— OF HONGKONG LTD. —
AGENTS: BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE
— TELEPHONE NO. 212 —
— TELEGRAMS: "TAIKOO" —

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LD. PORTLAND CEMENT

In Casks of 575 lbs. net.
In Bags of 250 lbs. net.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO. GENERAL MANAGERS

THE HONGKONG HOTEL AND GRILL ROOM

J. H. TAGGART, MANAGER

PEAK HOTEL.

ADMIRABLY SITUATED AT VICTORIA GAP
Adjoining the Tramway Terminus, 1,400 feet above Sea Level.
A FIRST-CLASS FAMILY RESIDENTIAL AND TOURISTS HOTEL.
Telephones in all rooms. First-class Cuisine, Lounge, Smoking and Ladies rooms, Billiard Room.
Rates: From \$6 per day. Max.
Telegraph add: "Peacotel"
P. O. PEUSTER, Manager.

TO THOSE GOING AWAY

Keep in touch with local happenings
by subscribing to

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All the News of Hongkong and the Far East.
ORDER BEFORE YOU LEAVE SO THAT YOU MAY RECEIVE IT WHILE AWAY.
Price \$12 per annum, including postage.
CASH OR MONEY ORDER TO THE CHINA MAIL OFFICE.

THE WAR. TO-DAY'S TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

THE CONVOY DISASTER.

STORIES AT THE INQUESTS.
LONDON, Dec. 18.
At an inquest, held at a north-eastern port, on three of the crew of one of the lost trawlers, the Skipper stated that the trawler was not armed. She was fishing with five other vessels, when he heard gunfire. He went on deck and saw three destroyers, which were stationary, 200 yards distant firing very hard. He alone was unwounded. The destroyers steamed off without offering assistance. Subsequently, a British destroyer came up and rescued the survivors.
At an inquest held at the same port on five Swedes belonging to the Swedish steamer which was torpedoed at four o'clock in the morning, on December 12, while in convoy, the survivors said that the torpedo cut the vessel in two. Sixteen of the crew were killed and twenty are missing. All the boats were smashed and the survivors remained on board for four hours till they were rescued by a British destroyer. The two halves of the vessel were towed in with the men on board.
FURTHER DETAILS.
LATER.
The entire crew of twelve, of one of the trawlers, were saved in the trawler's own boat.
The casualties sustained on the *Peleus* were an officer and three men killed and two men seriously injured. Information regarding the survivors of the *Partridge* is not complete but a British Naval Attaché in Holland has telegraphed that it is reported from Kiel that three officers and 21 men of the *Partridge* and 28 men from the trawlers have been brought in, ten of whom are wounded.

THE POPE AND JERUSALEM.

Rome, Dec. 18.
The *Messenger* says that the Pope is communicating with the Bishops in the belligerent countries stating that the Vatican will condemn any Christian country assisting the Turks in an attempt to reconquer Jerusalem.

A CONSUMERS' COUNCIL IN THE FOOD MINISTRY.

LONDON, Dec. 13.
In the House of Commons, Mr. Clynes, Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Ministry of Food, representing the Food Controller, announced the establishment of a Consumers' Council at the Food Ministry, with representatives of all working classes, including women. The Council will protect the interests of consumers with regard to prices and other food problems.

PROHIBITION IN THE UNITED STATES.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.
The House of Representatives has adopted the Prohibition Resolution, which prevents the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors throughout the United States, by 282 votes to 128.

DEATH OF DR. GARRETT ANDERSON.

LONDON, Dec. 18.
The death is announced of Dr. Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, M.D. (Paris). Dr. Anderson was the first lady doctor and the first lady to be appointed Mayor of an English borough.

THE CANADIAN ELECTIONS.

OTTAWA, Dec. 18.
Out of the 75 seats of Quebec the Government has carried only three, namely, those in the English-speaking districts of Montreal. The two provinces are divided almost equally between the two parties.

THE SILVER MARKET.

LONDON, Dec. 17.
There is a strong demand for silver in the market.

INTIMATIONS



IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that in accordance with REGULATIONS, published under Government Notification No. 514 of 23rd November, 1917, commencing from 1st January next, all PRIVATE RICKSHAS have to be LICENSED at an Annual License Fee of \$10, payable in advance. Ricksha-drivers have to be Licensed at a Fee of 30 cents half-yearly.

C. McLESTER,
Captain Superintendent of Police.
Hongkong, Dec. 17, 1917. 2380

THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED.

BEFORE PURCHASING ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES for use in connection with the Company's supply, Consumers are recommended to communicate with the Underigned with a view to ascertaining—

1. If the Appliances, and their use, are in accordance with the Company's Regulations.
2. If the Wiring of the premises where it is intended to install such Appliances is suitable.

It is important that the foregoing information should be obtained from the Company, as not only does the neglect to do so endanger property by fire but in addition may lead to a contravention of the Ordinance.

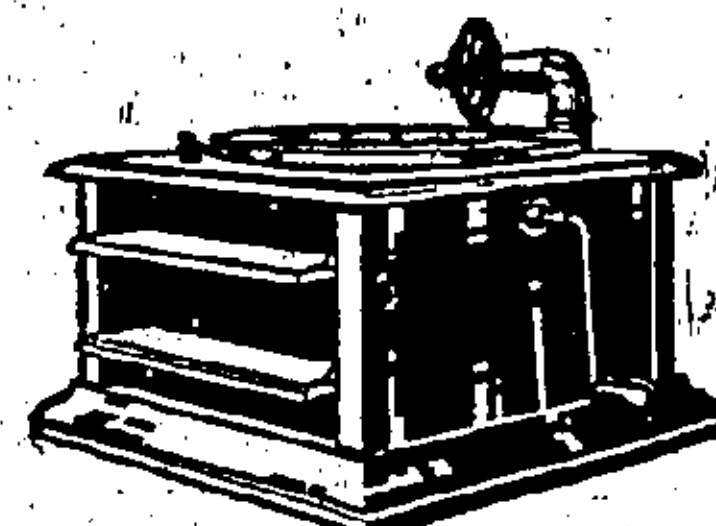
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO.,
Agents.
Hongkong, Dec. 13, 1917. 2386

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
NOTIFICATION.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that on the 8th January proximo, at 3 p.m., at the Public Works Department, and before a Committee presided by the Engineer Director of the Public Works, TENDERS will be received for the contract of "ERECTION OF A BUILDING for the Colonial Secretary's Office."

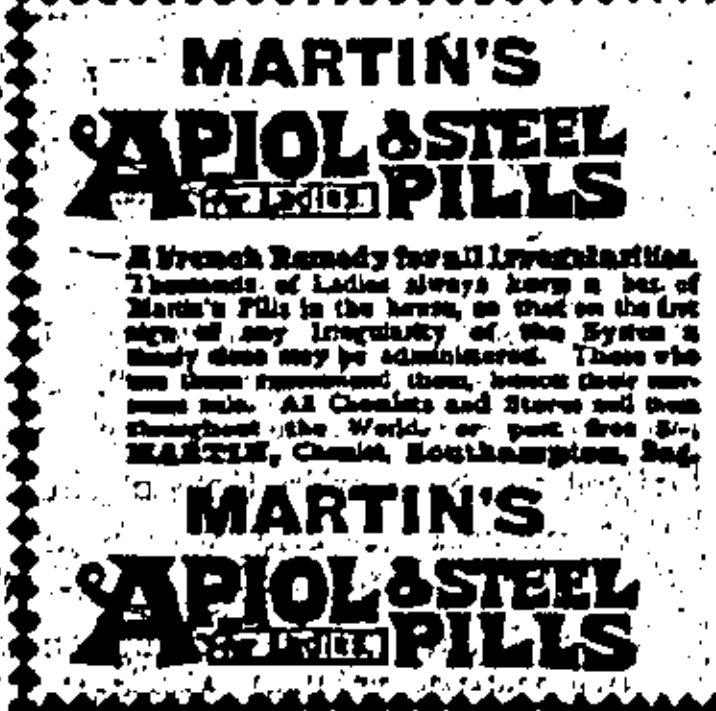
The conditions of the tendering, the specifications and the plans of the building are open to the public at the Public Works Department and in the Fort-ress Consulate in Hongkong, where they can be examined all week days.

Macao, Public Works Department,
6th December, 1917.
RAUL M. DE FARIA F. MARIA,
Engineer Director.
Hongkong, Dec. 14, 1917. 2391

MUSIC
FOR THE
CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS.
THIS
COLUMBIA
AT \$25.

Will Certainly Please Them.
We have GRAFONOLAS to suit every Pocket.
Ask Us About Them.

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JAPANESE MAKERS
Every kind of Footwear
MADE
TO
ORDER



GEMMY & CO.
Opposite Hongkong Hotel.
Telephone No. 191.
Hongkong, Dec. 18, 1917.



A Quarter Deck Council—Unanimous decision in favour of

FELUCCA EGYPTIAN CIGARETTES

Possess an individuality and distinction that never fails to charm.

THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS ISSUED BY THE
BRITISH-AMERICAN TOBACCO CO., LTD.

CRUCIFIED BABES

HUN INFAMY IN BELGIUM.

AMERICAN PASTOR'S STORIES.

Fresh from France, where he had made his own inquiries into the charges made against the Germans, and armed with evidence in the form of papers and photographs, the Rev. Dr. Newell Dwight Hillis moved to its depths recently the congregation of the historic Plymouth Church in Brooklyn, New York, by his denunciation of the Hun for their atrocities. Pounding his pile of documents, says the "New York Sun," Dr. Hillis exclaimed—

"For three years German-Americans have protested that the stories of German atrocities were to be disbelieved as English inventions. Belgian lies and French hyperboles. But that day is gone for ever. When the representatives of the nations assemble for the final settlement there will be laid before the Germans photographs with other legal proof that makes the German atrocities to be far better established than the scalping of the Sioux Indians on the Western frontier, the murder of the Black Hole of Calcutta, and the crimes of the Spanish Inquisition."

Again, he pounded the papers—
"For the first time in history Germans have reduced savagery to a science; therefore, the great war for peace must go on until the German cancer is cut clean out of the body."
"Women!" he cried. "Your son he is God's soldier let him be. I know of no fairer death!"

LOSING WEIGHT
BY THE POUND

"Under Weight," a condition of ill-health, shows your assimilative powers are decreasing.

WATERBURY'S
METABOLIZED
COD LIVER OIL
COMPOUND

Supplies the blood with the wanted nourishing and healthy flesh building materials. Very palatable.

OF ALL CHEMISTS.
Prices \$1.25 and \$2.25

Dr. Hillis stated that the "cold catalogue of German atrocities makes the most sickening pages in history. These atrocities were not committed in a mood of drunkenness nor in an hour of anger, but were organized by so-called German efficiency. It is not simply that they looted factories, carried away machinery, robbed houses, bombed every farmhouse and granary, left no plough or reaper, chopped down every fruit tree and poisoned all wells!"

"The Germans slaughtered old men and matrons, mutilated captives in ways that can only be spoken of by men in whispers, violated little girls until they were dead; finding a calf's skin nailed to a barn door to be dried, they nailed a baby beside it and wrote beneath the word 'zwei'; bombed and looted hospitals, Red Cross buildings, violated the white flag—while the worst atrocities cannot even be named."

He mentioned the name of the German General Plausa. "Plausa!" Dr. Hillis shouted. "Plausa—ten thousand curses on his name!" The audience echoed the sentiment by vigorous applause.

Amid a profound silence, Dr. Hillis said that German philosophy thought was the root of Germany's war spirit. "The Kaiser, Nietzsche, von Bethmann-Hollweg, von Bismarck and Plausa think and teach the theory of iron force, the right of big Germany to loot little Belgium, the right of the lion over the lamb, and that no questions will be asked by a just God on the last day of judgment," he asserted.

Dr. Hillis had in the pulpit the record of "a thousand atrocities," including hundreds of photographs of the bodies of aged priests, dead French and Belgian girls, "with breasts cut off. The girl's life weighs nothing against a German soldier's lust or the possibility of the brute's handing his contamination to the next soldier. Here is German efficiency for you!"

THAT PAIN BEHIND YOUR
SHOULDER

is probably due to disordered liver. Pinkettes dispel liverishness, Constipation, Biliousness, sick-headaches, clear the complexion and sweeten the breath.



the delicate little laxative of all dealers, or post free 50 cents the trial from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 235 N. Second St., New York.

UNNAMED AIR HERO.

Mr. W. Beach Thomas gives the following account of Lieut. Voss's last fight in the air.

The body of Lieutenant Voss, second only to Major Baron von Richthofen among German airmen, has been found and identified near Ypres. He claimed to have brought down 63 Englishmen.

The story of his final duel with one of our nameless but most daring pilots is now known in all its details. It was watched by some twenty machines, British and German, besides ground observers, and will give some insight into the extent as well as the desperation of air fighting in the present war.

One of the patrols met a German patrol, and the usual little encounter ensued. After the leader of our patrol had dived and put one German out of action by a shot which took effect in the middle of the machine, the German retired and our patrol, rising to a height of 7,000 ft., went on with its work.

To the scene of the fight there flew several German and British airmen. The sky in this area was thick with planes—indeed, in these days it always is. There were as many as eleven German planes in one formation, but they were playing out of formation, and they were not in the great fight now impending, and never succeeded in penetrating the guarding of our observing planes.

Two protagonists flew straight for one another, and in the subsequent fight played such a fantastic series of air tactics that, though sometimes the wings of the planes were only a few feet apart, no man got a clean fired aim at his opponent. Our man was twice obliged to put in a new drum, and both poured out a rapid stream of bullets whenever he could get his gun to bear on the other.

At last, after a long manoeuvre, the British airmen won a little height, and, as he swooped, was able to fire at a clear, open target. When the burst of fire was over and he passed below the enemy, whom he now knew to be some most redoubtable opponent, the German plane dived and the two missed one another almost by inches.

The triplane continued to dive earthwards in an even swoop with the engine off, and behind it our man followed, keeping up a continual fire till at last he lost sight of the enemy diving more steeply towards the west.

NACHTRAG ZUM KRIEG.
It was not till afterwards that he knew that his opponent was Lieutenant Voss, and that he had "gone west." Indeed Voss had been killed by a bullet, and probably the latter part of the battle was fought as a battle between the living and the dead. The stability of the triplane is such that automatically of itself it will maintain the full appearance of being down by an expert.

The usual accounts of the air have been observed in telling the Germans of the end of their skilled and courageous duellist.

The records of the battle and intervening days are full of stirring tales. Not long more than our fighting planes will be flying over the German front, and the German airmen will be looking for themselves, wrecked, downed, or shot down, to be buried in the ground.

INTIMATIONS

G. FALCONER & CO., LTD.

WATCHMAKERS & JEWELLERS.

Hotel Mansions.

Agents for ADMIRALTY CHARTS

ROSS'S BINOCULARS and TELESCOPES,

KELVIN'S NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS,

BENSON'S ENGLISH WATCHES,

ENGLISH SILVERWARE, direct from Manufacturers,
High Class English Jewellery

KAIPING COAL

FOR ALL INDUSTRIAL AND HOUSEHOLD PURPOSES
FOUNDRY AND SMELTING COKE
FIREBRICK AND FIRECLAY

FOR ALL INFORMATION APPLY TO
DODWELL & CO., LTD., QUEEN'S
BUILDINGS, HONGKONG, OR

KAILAN MINING ADMINISTRATION,
TIENTSIN, NORTH CHINA.

INTIMATIONS



YOUR EYES

SHOULD NOT BE NEGLECTED

At the first symptom of eye strain you should consult us. We test eyes scientifically and fit glasses to individual requirements.



HONGKONG & MANILA.



MITSUBISHI COSHI KWAISHA
(Mitsubishi Co.)
COAL DEPARTMENT.

SOLE PROPRIETORS OF

TAKASHIMA, OCHI MUTARE
KISHIDAKE, YOSHINOZAKI
HOJOKAMAZUTA, SATO KANADA
SHINNEW, KAMITAMADA, HIRAI
& OTUBARI COLLIERIES.

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Tientsin, London, New York,
Shanghai, Hongkong,
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FLAG & SAILMAKER

No. 123, Des Voeux Road Central,
Top Floor,
HONGKONG
Telephone No. 1833.

HORLICK'S MALTED MILK

(MALTED BARLEY, WHEAT
AND PURE FULL-CREAM MILK)

The Food Drink with all the Virtues.

1. Generates force and vitality.
2. Gives strength and maintains it.
3. Easily digested and completely absorbed.
4. Delicious and refreshing.
5. Ready in a moment.
6. Suits all ages and conditions.
7. Keeps in all climates.

Supplied by all Chemists and Stores.
In 3 Sizes, 1/4, 2/4 and 1 1/4 (in England).

Also available in Tablet form to
be dissolved in the mouth.

HORLICK'S MALTED MILK CO., SLOUGH, BUCKS, ENG.

PRINTING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION

executed at the Offices of
THE "CHINA MAIL" LTD.,
5, Wyndham Street.

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SHIPPING FORMS	WINE LIST
CIRCULARS	MENUS
PAMPHLETS	INVITATION CARDS

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THE HONGKONG & WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LD.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "MANIFESTO" HONGKONG.

Cable Used: A.I., A.B.C. Fifth Edition, Engineering First and Second Editions, Western Union, and Watkins.

Dock Owners, Ship Builders, Marine and Land Engineers, Boiler Makers,

Iron and Brass Founders, Forge Masters, Electricians.

ACETYLENE CUTTING AND WELDING FOR SHIP AND BOILER REPAIR.

Modern up-to-date plant operated by our own specially trained

workmen under expert European supervision.

All classes of light steel work manufactured by the above process.

Tanks, Drums, Ventilators, Pipes, &c., &c.

HEAD OFFICE: HONGKONG

THE DIMENSIONS OF DOCKS AND SLIPS ARE AS FOLLOWS					
NAMES OF DOCK OR SLIP	LENGTH OF KEEL BLACKS	DEPTH OVER BULKHEADS	DEPTH OVER BULKHEADS	DEPTH OVER BULKHEADS	DEPTH OVER BULKHEADS
DOCK NO. 1	200	10	10	10	10
DOCK NO. 2	200	10	10	10	10
DOCK NO. 3	200	10	10	10	10
DOCK NO. 4	200	10	10	10	10
DOCK NO. 5	200	10	10	10	10
DOCK NO. 6	200	10	10	10	10
DOCK NO. 7	200	10	10	10	10
DOCK NO. 8	200	10	10	10	10
DOCK NO. 9	200	10	10	10	10
DOCK NO. 10	200	10	10	10	10

WHAMPOA DOCK

WHAMPOA DOCK

WHAMPOA DOCK

WHAMPOA DOCK

WHAMPOA DOCK



WATSON'S "E" THE PREMIER SCOTCH.

DISTINCTIVE IN
FLAVOUR, WELL MATURED,
MELLOW.

A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd.,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
TELEPHONE No. 615.

To-day's Advertisement

HONGKONG HOTEL

TEA DANCES.

THE MANAGEMENT beg to announce that in future the CHARGE FOR TEA INCLUDING THIS PRIVILEGE OF DANCING will be \$1 per head; 25% of which sum will be donated by the Hotel Company to War Charities.

J. H. TAGGART,
Manager.

Hongkong, Dec. 19, 1917. 2404

THE CALENDAR.

MEMOS. FOR TO-MORROW.

Prince George's birthday (1904).
10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.—Auction of Toys, Xmas Trees, Crackers, etc. at Messrs. Hayhoe and Hooght's.

GENERAL MEMORANDA.

FRIDAY, Dec. 21.—
Hongkong Stock Exchange Settlement Day.
MONDAY, Dec. 24.—
General Holiday.
TUESDAY, Dec. 25.—
Christmas Day: General Holiday.
WEDNESDAY, Dec. 26.—
Boxing Day: General Holiday.
FRIDAY, Dec. 28.—
President Woodrow Wilson's birthday (1856).
5.48 p.m.—Total Eclipse of the Moon.
5.52 p.m.—Full Moon.
MONDAY, Dec. 31.—
Boxing Day.

THE "CHINA MAIL"

NOTICE.

Communications relating to news should be addressed to THE EDITOR.
Correspondents must forward their names and addresses with any communication addressed to the Editor, not necessarily for publication but as evidence of good faith.
All matter for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

Letters relating to business should be addressed to THE MANAGER.
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Advertisements and additions to advertisements on pages 2, 3, 4, and 5 should be sent not later than 11.30 a.m.
New advertisements should be sent in before 3 p.m.
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Telephone Address "MAN" Hongkong, Code "A.B.C." 15th Edition.
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THE CHINA MAIL, LTD.

THE CHINA MAIL TYPHOON MAP and GUIDE

Enables one to locate the centre of a Typhoon.
MOUNTED ON CARDBOARD AND
TAPED FOR HANGING.

Price 50 Cents.

proclaiming that Germany must retain Flanders, Antwerp, Ostend and Zeebrugge, and "certain French territory," and must also take Calais and Boulogne. The Labour Manifesto contemplates no peace with "a triumphant outfall" and it is quite clearly recognised that there can be no League of Nations other than such League as now exists before the foes of Civilisation are finally defeated and public law vindicated.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

A congregation is to be held at the Hongkong University for conferring Degrees, on January 9th.

Interim dividends have been declared by Rubber Companies as follows:—Harpenden 25, Highland and Lowlands 10, Bidor 20, Bukit Cih 13 1/2.

The Great Northern Telegraph Co., Ltd., announce that telegraphic communication with Russia and Siberia west of Tshita (except with Kiachta) is interrupted.

The Union Church Guild will meet to-night in the Lecture Hall, Kennedy Road, for a Social Evening. Various musical and other items will be rendered, and refreshments served during an interval. Members are requested to invite their friends to this social, which will commence at 9 o'clock.

Mr. D. H. Blake, vice-president of the American Trading Company of New York and general manager for the firm in the Far East, accompanied by his daughter, Miss Dorothy Blake, returned to Yokohama by the Siberia Maru on December 2. Mr. Blake has completely recovered from the serious illness from which he had suffered prior to his departure for home.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

Mr. S. M. Schmitt, American Vice-Consul at Canton, China, has been assigned to the U. S. Consulate-General in Yokohama, for special work in regard to passports.

Mr. T. M. Ainscough, who in 1914 and 1915 was Special Commissioner in China for the Board of Trade Commercial Intelligence Department, has been appointed H. M. Trade Commissioner for India.

Sir Frederick Lugard, G.C.M.G., C.B., is mentioned as the probable successor of Sir John Anderson, in the Governorship of Ceylon. Sir John Anderson who has been seriously ill for some months past, is proceeding home at an early date.

WAR LOANS INVESTMENT TRUST OF MALAYA.

Subscriptions to November 20, 1917.	No. of Applications.	Amount.
November, 1916	227	427,760
December, 1916	144	269,040
January, 1917	192	240,870
February, 1917	204	321,980
March, 1917	323	246,000
April, 1917	142	314,500
May, 1917	115	285,220
June, 1917	74	150,440
July, 1917	111	123,470
August, 1917	117	139,240
September, 1917	110	166,970
October, 1917	124	201,790
November, 1917	405	779,800
Total	2,808	\$3,705,690

ANOTHER BIG FIRE IN OGATA.

Damage estimated at over ¥1,000,000 was caused by a fire at Ogata on the night of the 18th inst., which destroyed the works and warehouses of the Japan Artificial Fertiliser Company and also the godowns of the Fuji Paper Mills.

WHOOPING COUGH.

WHEN your child has whooping cough, be careful to keep the cough to a minimum and expectoration easy by giving Chamberlain's Cough Remedy as fast as required. This remedy will also soothe the inflamed throat and loosen the mucus in the lungs. It has been used for centuries and is the most reliable remedy for whooping cough. It is sold in all countries and is the only remedy that will cure it.

ACCIDENTS TO LOCAL STEAMERS.

News has reached the Colony of accidents to four local steamers within the past week.

THE S.S. "HONGKONG."

We have already described the misfortune, of Messrs. Martz & Co.'s steamer *Hongkong* which struck the rocks near Fort Bayard and of which vessel no further news is to hand.

THE "LAERTES."

The s.s. *Laertes* (the Hung Hing Steamship Company) has gone down as the result of a collision with a Singapore steamer. The *Laertes* is stated to have sunk rapidly and the Captain and crew were taken aboard the other steamer, which stood by until daylight. The *Laertes* was insured with Chinese Companies for \$400,000.

THE "TONG LEE."

The s.s. *Tong Lee* (Messrs. Thorenson & Co.) is ashore at Quángang, close to Bangkok. The *Tong Lee* left Bangkok about November 25 under the charge of a Japanese Captain, for Hongkong, with a cargo of rice. As far as is known, the vessel encountered bad weather and sought refuge in one of the coves on the coast and went ashore at the spot mentioned, on or about November 27. The Captain and crew are standing by, but it is not yet known whether salvage operations will prove successful.

Prior to the receipt of the news regarding the *Tong Lee*, a tug had been sent out by the Taikeo Dock Company to assist a Japanese steamer that is also ashore close to Bangkok, and it is surmised that this tug will go to the assistance of the *Tong Lee*. In any case, full details as to the condition of the *Tong Lee* must be awaited until the Master in charge of the Taikeo tug makes his report.

A HONGKONG CASE.

DECISION OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

We are informed that a telegram has just been received from London containing the result of an appeal from Hongkong to the Privy Council in the action, *Tong Shun v. Fung Ping Shan and Fung Yee Chai*. This case, it will be remembered, concerned a mortgage to the defendants, who are bankers, of certain property claimed by the plaintiff who applied to have the transaction set aside. The trial involved questions of law, and engaged the attention of the local Courts for a considerable period. The original judgment of the Chief Justice was for the plaintiff. On appeal to the Full Court here, consisting of the President, Sir Havilland de Saumarez, and the Puisne Judge, Mr. Justice Gompertz, the Judges disagreed, the President's view being in favour of the defendant bankers and the Puisne Judge's in favour of the plaintiff. On further appeal to the Privy Council, the result is that the view of Sir Havilland de Saumarez has been upheld, and the Hongkong decisions have therefore been reversed, final judgment being given for the defendant bankers with costs both in the Privy Council and below.

Counsel for the plaintiff was Mr. Eldon Potter, instructed by Messrs. Hastings & Hastings; and Counsel for the defendant bankers was the Hon. Mr. B. H. Sharp, K.C., instructed by Messrs. Deacon, Lockyer, Deacon & Harston.

THE CEYLON WAR LOAN.

The Ceylon War Loan, which met with such a poor response produced by the Government, has been let at 1,064,200, which has been let at 106 per cent. The Government had expected to receive 1,000,000 for which no bids had been received. The Government had expected to receive 1,000,000 for which no bids had been received. The Government had expected to receive 1,000,000 for which no bids had been received.

THE BEST COUGH MEDICINE.

CHAMBERLAIN'S Cough Remedy is the best cough medicine. It is sold in all countries and is the only remedy that will cure it. It is the only remedy that will cure it. It is the only remedy that will cure it.

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

[The "China Mail" Service.]

ONE DIVISION OF TROOPS FOR EUROPE.

PEKING, Dec. 18.—It is reported that it has been decided to dispatch one Division of troops to Europe. Britain and France will provide the equipment for the troops and China will supply cotton, grains and cattle.

THE PEKING GOVERNMENT AND THE SOUTH.

PEKING, Dec. 18.—The military movements are regarded as measures to prevent a further advance by the Southern troops and to secure a better position for the North in the peace negotiations. The Cabinet is still discussing the policy to be adopted towards the South.

LUNG CHAI KWONG.

PEKING, Dec. 18.—General Lung Chai Kwong telegraphs that he has assumed at Yangchow the Office of Inspector General of the Two Kwang. [It is reported locally that General Lung Chai Kwong has crossed the straits with his troops from Hainan, and is making for Kwangsi.]

THE MAGISTRACY.

RAW OPIUM.

Revenue Inspector Clarke charged a Chinese before Mr. Wood this morning with the unlawful possession of four pounds of raw opium.

It was stated that the opium, which was wrapped in oil paper, was found on defendant's person underneath his girdle.

Mr. Wood fined the defendant \$250 with the alternative of three months' hard labour.

ALLEGED PICKPOCKET.

A Chinese was charged before Mr. Wood this morning with the theft of \$15 from another Chinese at Queen's Road West.

Defendant pleaded not guilty.

Evidence was given by the complainant who stated that he was walking along Queen's Road West when he felt someone pulling at his pocket. He turned round and caught the defendant who attempted to escape. Complainant searched his own pockets and found he had lost \$15. The money, however, was not found on the defendant who had evidently passed it over to an accomplice.

Mr. Wood found there was not sufficient evidence against the defendant and discharged him.

DRUNK.

An Indian watchman was charged before Mr. Wood this morning, with being drunk and disorderly at Queen's Road East yesterday.

It was stated that the defendant was drunk and tried to create a disturbance in a shop at Queen's Road East. He was then arrested by an Indian Police Reserve.

Defendant pleaded guilty and was sentenced to a fine of \$5.

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

Orders issued by Mr. F. C. Jenkin, D.S.P. (R.).

LEAVE REGULATIONS (PARADES AND DRILLS).

Departmental Order No. 87 is suspended until further orders, and the following will take its place:—

87. No member below the rank of Inspector shall absent himself from any parade, drill, lecture, practice, etc., without the permission of either the D.S.P. (R.) or Adjutant. No application will be entertained unless made in writing and submitted through the proper channels. Inspectors and senior ranks will apply direct for such permission.

PARADES—CENTRAL, 5.30 P.M.

Wednesday December 19th—No. 2 Platoon.

Thursday, December 20th—No. 3 Company and Ambulance Platoon under own Chief Instructors.

Friday December 21st—No. 1 Platoon.

Rifles of No. 1 and 3 Platoons will be inspected by the Musketry Officers immediately after the fall-in and before roll-call.

APPOINTMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE, &c.—All applications for Correspondence, &c. (excepting Reports) will, to future, be addressed to the A.P. (R.) and Adjutant only and delivered at the Police Reserve Headquarters Office, and to his business or private address.

By Order, T. W. Hovell, A.S.P. (R.) and Adjutant.

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY.

World-wide peace is the only basis for lasting happiness.

Peace is the only basis for lasting happiness.

Peace is the only basis for lasting happiness.

Peace is the only basis for lasting happiness.

Peace is the only basis for lasting happiness.

CHANG HSUN.

THE QUESTION OF HIS EXILE.

Although there has been a great deal of discussion of the case of the former General of the Ting-wu Army, Chang Hsun, in diplomatic circles and in Chinese official circles, the proposals made and the decisions reached have been given very little publicity, possibly because very few persons are deeply interested. Chang Hsun has enjoyed the sanctuary of the Legation Quarter for five months. His residence in the Dutch Legation has undoubtedly been very humiliating for him, always a man of action and one who has not only enjoyed the fullest personal liberty but has also been accustomed to exercise an unquestioned authority, and it has also brought up some very nice and very difficult problems for the diplomats who have acted as his hosts. The tradition of sanctuary, which does not permit of the extradition of a political refugee nor the execution of a sentence passed by the refugee's enemies without the consent of the refugee himself, has made it impossible for the diplomatic body to rid themselves of the person and problem of Chang Hsun by expelling him from the Legation Quarter, because such expulsion would, certainly entail his seizure by his enemies, even though they are the recognized authorities of the Chinese Government, and would be equivalent to the surrender of his person which they have sheltered and held inviolate for five months.

In view of the measures which have been taken against Chang Hsun's subordinates and lesser colleagues, who had the ill luck to be caught, the Chinese Government could not relieve the embarrassment of the situation by pardoning the old loyalist, nor was it consistent with the dignity of either the Government or the Legations to connote at his escape to a Treaty Port or a foreign country. It also devolved upon Chang Hsun himself to protect the reputation and honour of his distinguished hosts by refraining from any attempt to escape, as such an attempt would certainly have given rise to the suspicion that his foreign guards had connived at his flight. This was the position until a few weeks ago.

Now it has been reported recently that the diplomatic body and the Chinese authorities have agreed that the best solution of the difficulty is exile to some foreign colony in the South Indian Ocean, French or Dutch, and that it was finally understood that the French authorities had made themselves responsible for his transport and the surveillance of his person, as far as one of their remote island possessions off the coast of East Africa. The only difficulty in the way of this solution is that if, after passing beyond the jurisdiction of China, it develops that Chang Hsun objects to being taken to the designated spot in the Ocean, no one will have the slightest authority for taking him there. He is not a French prisoner or a Dutch prisoner, he has in the past committed no act which would warrant any foreign power in regarding him as its political exile, so once outside the borders of China he is as free as any other political exile and his removal by force to any foreign possession and his retention there could only be described as an official kidnapping, which certainly would not be defended if an appeal were made in Chang Hsun's behalf to the home Government of any Occidental Power concerned.

The absurd charge, based upon the most futile rumours, which attempted to connect Chang Hsun's monarchy movement with a German propaganda, would not bear a bourgeois investigation. These charges were exploded and pronounced groundless in every British paper in China within two weeks of the collapse of the monarchy movement, and signed documents giving positive evidence which made the charges ridiculous were published in some journals. If Chang Hsun were to be railroaded to Madagascar or any other sub-tropical roting ground on the convenient charge of collusion with the enemies of the Allies, simply because it offered a convenient and simple way out of an awkward situation it would be a grave injustice against a defenceless old man, who has not only committed such offenses as he has committed against the Chinese Republic, out of deep-rooted and ardent devotion to an ideal, antiquated as it may seem, but has many times demonstrated to his enemies that he has personal qualities which entitle him to nothing but the fairest and most impartial treatment. The only possible solution to the difficulty, consistent with the dignity and obligations of all parties concerned, and at the same time consistent with justice, is to have Chang Hsun called after a formal consideration of his case in a Chinese military court, to see that he reaches a port of debarkation in safety and then to permit him to choose for himself the land of his exile. This entails no consideration of sentiment, but satisfies the technicalities and the principle of justice.

If we wish to take up the sentimental side of Chang Hsun's case in any length, we fear that we should stray into odious comparisons and rhetorical panegyrics upon the old man's vigorous qualities which would seem put us in the class of his admirers and the supporters of his imperialist schemes. The great pity of the movement which he led last July is now admitted by many of his former associates. Chang Hsun's movement was world-wide peace, the only basis for lasting happiness. It was world-wide peace, the only basis for lasting happiness. It was world-wide peace, the only basis for lasting happiness.

THE ALLEGED FRAUDS AT SHANGHAI.

LARGER SUMS YET SAID TO BE INVOLVED.

RAINED SCRIPT.

The "N.C. Daily News" of Thursday last says:—If all the reports current yesterday concerning the alleged embezzlement by a Portuguese sharebroker are correct, the affair is much more serious than originally supposed. Estimates now state that the amount of money involved may reach Tls. 1,000,000. Owing to the manner in which the money is said to have been obtained and to the number of individuals who are supposed to have been the sufferers, it is difficult at present to place any accurate estimate on the sum total.

Many more persons and concerns than originally supposed, it is alleged, who trusted the missing man with their money and script, have lost sums varying from Tls. 4,000 to Tls. 50,000. There are also said to be numbers of Chinese who have lost heavily.

It seems, according to reports from varied sources, that the Portuguese had built up a reputation during the last few years for honesty and trustworthiness, and because he was able to negotiate business deals speedily and to the profit of his customer, had secured a large clientele. Many men, it is stated, placed implicit faith in him, and through him, the sharebroker, obtained many other clients. When it was announced on Monday that he had disappeared and that large sums of money were missing, utter surprise was evinced in numerous circles. Later, when more details of the alleged fraud were learned, the business world was astounded.

It is believed that the larger portion of the money was secured by forged script. This was done, it is understood, by taking small script of five and one shahs, and raising them to fifties and hundreds. The exact amount of original script involved cannot be determined now, and it will be many days, perhaps, before anything definite can be learned. It is stated that what made this alleged fraud possible was the fact that the owner of the script failed to have it registered immediately upon purchase. Having the full confidence in his client, it is supposed that he was a comparatively easy matter for the missing man to manipulate the script as he pleased.

So far, the whereabouts of the alleged absconder is still a mystery, and every effort is being made to find him.

The other two Portuguese, who are also said to have embezzled money, and who are thought to be on their way to Japan, have not yet been apprehended. The Portuguese Consul-General has dispatched a telegram to Nagasaki to have the men arrested immediately upon their arrival, and providing they have taken the ship they are thought to have taken, news of them should be received here today.

It is now alleged that the embezzlement has probably extended over a period of two or three years instead of a short time, as was originally supposed. It is understood that valuable papers and information from individuals have been obtained which may be of considerable light on the alleged embezzling deal.

The "China Press" of Saturday says:—The wife and daughter and father-in-law of Romulo Carneiro, former employee of the Banco Asiatico Bank, named in the J. L. Carneiro case, were arrested yesterday by the Portuguese authorities on charge of having made false declarations to the Portuguese Consul-General. Consul Oliveira said that the alleged forgery of the relatives of the missing bank man was in connection with certain monies. Just what further action will be taken in this matter has not been decided.

Neither the Consul nor the police could confirm yesterday, the persistent reports that two men, supposedly R. Carneiro and Leopoldo Lemos, had been arrested in Nagasaki, or the rumour that J. L. Carneiro had been arrested in Fokow. The Consul said that he did not believe any of the men had yet been caught, but was hopeful that all would be arrested soon.

A further development of the day was the advertising of large numbers of shares of various companies as lost or stolen. One instance is that of a Chinese who claims to have turned over 600 shares to J. L. Carneiro for mortgaging, nothing further having been heard of them. The local stock exchange business is said to be practically paralyzed because of the forged certificates and large quantities of the altered script were still coming in to agents yesterday. In some cases the altering of the figures had been very cleverly done, the forgery being noticeable only when the certificates were held up to a strong light. In other instances the work was hastily and roughly executed and the changes readily apparent.

Taking of depositions and examination of Portuguese papers is still going on at the Portuguese Consulate, and it is understood that the evidence against the three men "wanted" has been materially strengthened.

of his theatrical restoration and considered him as an elderly fanatic of no practical service to the State or even to the cause of the Manchuri House which he championed. This does not, however, detract from the fact that he is one of the very few survivors of a vigorous type of Chinese, who had, if we are to believe history, definite political creeds, policies and purposes, who had tenaciously to their doctrine in spite of temptations, threats, bribes and dangers, and who would readily sacrifice themselves for the altar of their ideals. Chang Hsun has these qualities, and it is not to be wondered at that he was in many respects, not only undoubtedly prominent, but a greater aid to China than any one else of his generation. Certainly, and with some exceptions, he was one of the few men of his generation who were not only patriotic, but also had a vision of the future of China.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE LOST CONVOY.

DETAILS OF THE ATTACK.

LONDON, Dec. 17. The convoy was bound from Scotland to Norway and consisted of one British and five neutral merchant ships. The British ship was the *Partridge*, escorted by an anti-submarine escort. The *Partridge* was attacked by a German submarine on the 12th inst. For some reason, not yet explained, the force sent by Admiral Beatty to protect the convoy against attacks by surface vessels did not arrive in time to prevent the destruction of the convoy.

The second convoy which was also being covered, was not attacked. The whole of the circumstances were being enquired into by Admiral Sturdee, Vice-Admiral De Robeck and Rear-Admiral Goodenough.

The circumstances of the attack, according to information at present available, were as follows:—The *Partridge* sighted four enemy destroyers at 11.45 a.m. on the 12th inst. Shortly afterwards the *Partridge* was engaged by the enemy, while the convoy scattered in accordance with orders. Soon the *Partridge* was heavily hit, after which an explosion occurred on board and she sank. The *Partridge*, meanwhile, was holed on the water line and her engines were partly disabled. She was eventually brought safely to England. The enemy, then apparently attacked and sank the convoy and the trawlers. Eighty-eight Scandinavians, including two women and ten British survivors, were rescued by four destroyers, which were detached at full speed from the cruiser squadron. The other survivors reached Norway in boats.

EARL GREY'S NEPHEW CAPTURED.

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 17. A telegram from Kiel states that Lieutenant Grey, nephew of Viscount Grey, the ex-foreign Secretary, is amongst the prisoners who have been landed from the attacked convoy.

Lieutenant Grey was aboard the *Partridge* during the fight and assumed command when the Commander fell. Lieutenant Grey was wounded by a shell splinter and was picked up by a German destroyer.

Telegrams from Copenhagen state that German light cruisers supported the destroyers.

Neutral survivors state that the *Partridge* sank after ten minutes' fighting against an overwhelming force, the crews working the guns till the last. The Germans offered to take aboard a number of neutral seamen after the *Partridge* was sunk. All the neutrals refused, preferring a chance to reach Norway in open boats.

CREWS SAVED.

CHRISTIANIA, Dec. 18. All the crews of the merchantmen of the convoy that were sunk have been saved. When the raiders attacked, the convoy withdrew from the fighting area, and the crew took to the boats.

TRAWLERS ATTACKED OFF THE TYNE.

LONDON, Dec. 17. In the House of Commons, Dr. Macnamara, Financial Secretary to the Admiralty, announced that two trawlers were attacked by gunfire off the Tyne at half-past four on the morning of the 12th inst. One trawler was damaged and the other was sunk. Eight of the crews were killed. It was at first reported that the attack was made by submarines, but later it was reported to have been by destroyers.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

HEAVY SNOW CONTINUES.

LONDON, Dec. 18. Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—Raiding parties attacked two posts in the neighbourhood of the Ipres-Comines Canal. We repulsed one attack, and in the other the enemy entered a post and captured a few men. We counter-attacked and re-captured the post and men, killing or capturing a number of the enemy. Mutual artillery firing continued on the remainder of the front. The heavy snow last night continued today.

FRENCH ARTILLERY STILL BUSY.

LONDON, Dec. 17. A French communiqué states:—There was reciprocal artillery activity south of St. Quentin and on the right bank of the Meuse.

SIX INCHES OF SNOW.

LONDON, Dec. 18. Reuter's Correspondent at British Headquarters, wiring yesterday, says the winter has taken charge of the Western Front. Six inches of snow lies on the ground.

INTOXICANTS IN AMERICA.

PROHIBITION PROPOSED THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES.

LONDON, Dec. 18. Congress is debating the Federal Prohibition bill, which would prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicants throughout the United States. The bill has been introduced by Representative Dyer of Indiana, and is expected to pass in the near future.

THE ITALIAN FRONT.

STUBBORN INFANTRY FIGHTING.

LONDON, Dec. 17. An Italian official communiqué states:—There was violent artillery firing throughout the day between the Brenta and the Piave. There was stubborn infantry fighting at Col-Capella. Superior forces forced back our counter-offensive, but our reinforcements re-established the position to our advantage. Our concentrated fire broke up an attack at the lower end of the Brenta Valley, forcing the enemy to retire in disorder.

U.S. WAR SECRETARY'S REPORT.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17. Mr. Baker, the War Secretary, in his weekly review, says:—"No element in the military situation should lead us to conclude that the initiative on the Western Front has passed to the enemy."

Referring to the rumours of great German preparations to roll back the Allies on the Western Front, Mr. Baker says:—"The German Higher Command seeks peace through victory and is very eager to make us believe that he is about to win such victory." Mr. Baker admits that an imposing enemy offensive is possible, but declares that the increased strength of the Germans on the Western Front will not result in any permanent strategic advantage to the Germans.

Referring to the Near East, Mr. Baker says the conquest of Jerusalem will have a wide influence throughout Turkey and go far to reaffirming the prestige of the Allies in the Orient. "Germany realises the danger attendant on her waning influence in the East. Therefore, she will be more anxious than ever to conclude a speedy peace before the war map becomes less favourable."

Regarding aerial reprisals, Mr. Baker says the Allied raids on German towns, according to observers who recently arrived from Germany, "caused a very depressing effect on the civilian population and heightened the growing discontent of the people who now, for the first time, are being brought face to face with real war."

AFFAIRS IN RUSSIA.

THE SEPARATE PEACE.

VON KUEHLMANN TO NEGOTIATE.

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 18. A telegram from Berlin says that Dr. von Kuhlmann, the Foreign Minister, is going to Brest-Litovsk in connection with the peace negotiations.

GERMAN PRESS ELATED.

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 17. The German newspapers rejoice at the armistice, but most of them recognize that the attainment of a Russo-German peace is most difficult.

JAPAN AND VLADIVOSTOK.

LONDON, Dec. 17. The Japanese Government officially denies the rumours of the Japanese landing at Vladivostok.

BOLSHEVIKS CONTROL HARBOR.

LONDON, Dec. 17. Reuter learns from Japanese sources that Harbin, the population of which is largely Jewish, is entirely under Bolsheviki control. Brigades attacked the premises of important Japanese and other firms.

CHINESE TROOPS TO PRESERVE ORDER.

LONDON, Dec. 17. The Allied Ministers at Peking have decided to entrust the preservation of order at Harbin to the Chinese troops, who are already en route.

POLES OPPOSED TO FIGHTING FOR GERMANY.

FIGHTING FOR GERMANY.

LONDON, Dec. 17. News from Warsaw shows that a vast majority of the Polish nation opposes the formation of a Polish army to fight for the Central Powers.

BLUE FUNNEL TO BUY NINE SHIPS IN JAPAN.

Negotiations are now going on between the Blue Funnel Line and several local shipbuilding and shipping firms to buy nine steamers in Japan. It is learned that preliminary contracts have been signed by the British firm with Messrs. Suzuki and Company of Kobe to buy one ship; two will be bought in Kobe, two in Nagasaki, two ships in Yokohama and two in Osaka. Captain A. S. Yule accompanied by his deck officers and engineers reached Yokohama by the Korea Maru from London by way of San Francisco a few days ago to take command of one of these ships—*Japan Advertiser*.

CHINESE WELL TREATED IN TEUTON CAPITALS.

Chinese are being well treated both in Austria and Germany according to Mr. Shen, Chinese Minister to Vienna, who has just returned to Peking. Only two Chinese students are in Austria, one having an Austrian mother and the other being a graduate of a military school now employed by the Dutch Minister to Vienna to look after the Chinese Legation there. Information from the Dutch Minister to Berlin is that the Chinese Legation in Germany is also well treated. All the Chinese in Germany are being well treated.

GERMANY'S COLONIAL AIMS.

A RECENT PROGRAMME.

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